

Woman's Page

Holiday House Frocks Patterned From Rugs and Curtains—Toned Down Shades—Gray and Blue Very Popular—Shirtwaists of Tulle Are Sheer and Festive for Mid-winter Wear—Shirring Seen on Afternoon and Evening Frocks—Seven Hints for the Housewife—Attractive Decorations for a Schoolroom.

HOUSE FROCKS PATTERNED FROM RUGS AND CURTAINS

The general festive frivolousness that always attends a holiday time seems reflected with peculiar vividness in the house frocks that are being shown now in the shops and being seen in the homes of the most wealthy.

Many of these holiday house frocks of a simple nature seem to have been bought at the upholstery department. They might have been copied from the curtain in the library or the cushion in the bedroom, or from the handsome oriental rug in the parlor. Just one thing indeed must be remembered in the choosing of these gowns, and that is that while almost any design is permitted and almost any combination of colors allowed, these same colors must be subdued. Not necessarily somber but of toned down shades, no sharp vividness of color being encouraged.

The shades of gray and blue are especially popular, imitative perhaps of the Lucerne gown, which is often made up in those tones. With the afternoon gown of this shade and of other equally soft negative tints the capucine hood is employed. It is an odd touch and an effective one, too. It can be of the same goods as the dress or of velvet, chiffon or tulle. Edged with fur or with jet, it falls away from the neck, soft white lace topping it prettily.

Shirtwaists of tulle are sheer and festive for midwinter wear. These shirtwaists, worn with a tunic of the same goods and shade over a silk or satin skirt make informal little gowns for afternoon and even for evening affairs. Japanese purple in tulle and combined either with canary yellow or Russian green makes up gorgeously for evening wear. A simple way of outlining the neck of such a gown is by a two-inch band of ermine or other fur. Fur is an extremely easy thing to fall back on for the woman who is not sure.

Much shirring is seen on these afternoon and evening frocks alike. Shirred sleeves edged with brilliant beading rival shirred girdles with stunning buckles and from which hang ropes of crystals or rhinestones or other favorite beading to match the gown in question, these in turn ending in elaborate tassels.

Blues of different shades and tones are brought into play for the holiday evening gowns more than ever before. Sapphire blue is strikingly effective, but for the woman who finds it necessary to economize the darker, deeper blues are quite as stylish and a hundred per cent more durable.

TIMELY HINTS

To Make Gas Mantles Last.

Before removing a new mantle from its box, pass a thread through the loop at the top and carefully remove from the box by holding it by the thread. Immerse the mantle in a basin of vinegar, let it remain for a minute or two, then hang to dry. Place it on the fork, and burn off in the ordinary way. You will not only find they last much longer, but give a far better light; also they can be lighted without a protecting glove.

Old Long Kid Gloves.

If you have any old long kid gloves cut them off at the wrist and cut the arm part in two strips and join neatly. This will make a very smart hat band. Kid and suede bands are very fashionable now. Or, if you are clever with your needle, make some of those little kid flowers and trim your winter hat with them.

To Clean White Satin Shoes.

Rub them the length way of the satin with a clean white flannel that has been dipped in spirits of wine. If only slightly soiled they can be cleaned by simply rubbing them with stale bread.

To Keep Mint Fresh.

Whenever you have any mint leaves left over never throw them away, but keep them fresh to use again in the following manner: Sprinkle the mint with water, then roll lightly in a well-dampened cloth.

To Clean Ivory.

Having discovered a good way to clean the darkened handles of knives or forks or piano keys, I give it in this corner: Make a paste of equal parts of chalk, olive oil and ammonia; rub on and allow to dry, then wash off with water.

To Wash Flannel.

To keep flannels from shrinking wash them in the following way and you will find it very satisfactory: Shred a piece of the best white soap, boil in a quart of water; have ready a tubful of warm water, pour in the boiled soap and make a good lather. Then place the flannels to be washed into this, wash them thoroughly in it, but do not rub soap on them. Rinse in warm water, wring them out and dry as quickly as possible in the open air. When this is finished, iron when sufficiently dry with a warm iron.

MAKE THE SCHOOL ROOM ATTRACTIVE

An attractive school room of which I heard the other day was arranged like this: The room contains eight windows, in each of which is a window box. The boxes at one side are filled with all kinds of light looking ferns and crimson geraniums, a most satisfactory combination. At the top of each lower sash are nature transpires. They are made of green cardboard frames, on the back of which is pasted white tissue paper. On this paper are mounted pressed autumn leaves, ferns, sea-mosses and dried butterflies of various colors which make a good effect. Another piece of tissue paper holds them in place, and the whole is pasted on the glass. The light shining through makes it look so bright and pretty. This idea may be used in covering an entire pane of glass to hide an unpleasant outlook. In some window decorations the outlines of the plants are silhouetted against the light. This plan is one solution of the problem of the disposal of plants, where it is desirable to use many potted ones.

ENGLAND FACING AN EXCITING CAMPAIGN

London, Dec. 27.—A temperance campaign as exciting as that which accompanied the introduction of the licensing measure under the Lloyd George budget is promised for the coming session of Parliament. A demand for a licensing reform bill has been issued on behalf of the United Kingdom Alliance by its president, Lef Jones, M. P.

The manifesto declares that "the introduction next year of a comprehensive temperance measure into the House of Commons would elicit such widespread response and backing from the most various and unaccountable quarters as would astonish all who have not followed closely the solidifying opinion on the subject during recent years." The Alliance points out further that Mr. Lloyd George has said that no reform, political or social, will avail in this country unless preceded by temperance reform. An act similar to the one demanded by the Alliance for England and Wales was passed for Scotland at the last session of Parliament.

ORGANIZATION TO PURIFY ENGLISH

New Association to Resist Use of Foreign Words and Adopt Terse English.

London, Dec. 27.—An organization which promises to shake London's complacency as the fountain head of English as it should be spoken, has taken form at Oxford under the direction of the poet laureate Robert Bridges, aided by such masters of English as Thomas Hardy, Dr. Henry Bradley, Sir Walter Raleigh and Professor John W. Mackall.

While the objects of the association have not yet been fully defined, they probably will include the publication of literature, the delivery of lectures, the attempts ultimately to influence the teachers over the whole country to aid in the restoration of the purity of the language, both written and spoken, and to resist the unnecessary incorporation of foreign words, and to encourage the adoption in polite speech of crisp, terse, vigorous words from the dialects. The English that Johnson spoke rather than the English that Johnson wrote is the object aimed at by the association. Johnson would have said "right," but he would have written "putrefy."

In a tract prepared for the English association Dr. Bridges declares that we say "neither" for nature and that tune is well on its way to become "chune." A professor of English has been heard to say "audjins" for audience. An Oxford professor says "cweishun" for question and is sadly addicted to the word. The younger generation are "pauing" for pouring. Fortunately the educated south is learning that there is an "h" in wheel and when Ireland and Scotland never forget it.

Dr. Bridges concludes his tract as follows: "A Londoner will say that the truth is for nature and that the typical attitude of clear ignorance in these matters. He is disposed to look down upon all that he is unaccustomed to, and not knowing the true distinctions, he esteems his own degraded custom as correct."

NEW FIRE BOXES ON THE O. S. L.

The Herald-Republican says: Installation of improvements on the fire boxes of switching engines in the Salt Lake yards was completed yesterday by the Oregon Short Line railroad. With careful firing it is said the new design of fire boxes will practically eliminate engine smoke in the Salt Lake yards and aid in the keeping down of the smoke nuisance in the city.

The Oregon Short Line has begun a campaign of education all over the system to prevent making of black smoke by engines, and a specially equipped car is being sent out over the line that engineers and firemen may receive instructions in the proper handling of coal. Orders have been issued by W. H. Bancroft, general manager of the road, that hereafter all engines ordered from locomotive works shall be equipped with fire brick arches in the fire boxes, which aid in the proper combustion of the coal and the elimination of black smoke.

The railroad has issued a large booklet, which is being given to all firemen and engineers showing the proper methods of firing engines to eliminate black smoke. The railroad takes the position that black smoke is caused by improper firing and that it is a most expensive proposition to the railroad, as the fuel bills are the most important part of operating cost.

Causes Smoke Combustion.
The fire boxes on the sixteen switching engines used in the Salt Lake yards have been equipped with combustion tubes, originated by H. M. Gillis, mechanical engineer under J. F. Dunn, assistant general manager and superintendent of motive power of the Oregon Short Line.

Firebrick arches have been installed in addition to the combustion tubes, and as they give additional heating space and cause a better draft from the combustion tubes and from the sides and top of the fire box, great quantities of smoke are consumed.

Steam to Warm Air.

As soon as the switching engines are sent to the shop, a steam jet will be placed in each of the combustion tubes in order that the combustion may be more perfect.

In order that all possibilities of black smoke may be eliminated, the switching engines are to be equipped with superheaters. This is an invention which will stop black smoke when engines are required to do extra heavy work. The superheater raises the steam in the boiler to a much greater pressure than the gauge indicates, and when the extra amount of hot steam is needed, the fire box will not need to be filled with coal in order to produce the locomotive power. The superheater will be installed on passenger engines as rapidly as the Short Line can do the work.

Keep Fire Box Shut.

Firing locomotives with the firebox door open is another cause of smoke which is being eliminated by the Oregon Short Line. Firemen are being instructed that after each shovelful of coal is placed in the firebox the door should be closed. Traveling engineers and traveling firemen, who go over the road to see that engineers and firemen are handling the motive power of the railroad properly, instruct the firemen and engineers in the matter of prevention of smoke. If a fireman persists in wasting fuel and making smoke, he is called before the superintendent of the division and laid off a number of days. At stations all firemen must put on the blower, which stops the making of smoke by giving a bed of red coals.

The trout of the combustion tubes, steam jet, superheater and firebrick arch is being watched carefully, and if they are a success, it is said organizations opposed to the smoke nuisance will petition the Denver & Rio Grande to install the similar equipment.

Read the Classified Ads.



IN BLACK AND WHITE.

Oyster white velour with trimmings of black plush make this handsome suit. The coat is closed with buttons, covered with the material and encircled by a girle also of the velour, tied at the side-back. The skirt is made in a new way, the tucks at the top being stitched on the inside and left unpressed, giving a thick puffed effect on the outside. A hat of white fur with a white peacock feather is worn.



ORNAMENTED WITH STITCHING.

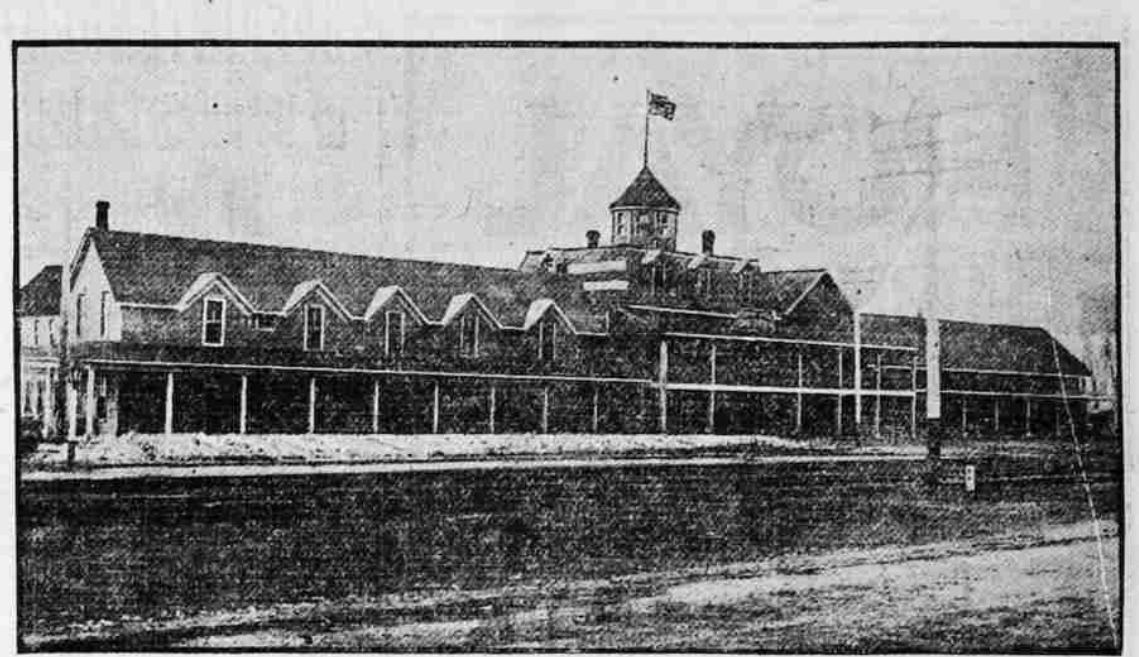
Stitched edges are effective in this design, a double row, done with coarse black silk being the style employed.

The material is a dull mauve cloth with ermine collar and white buttons. The girle ends are of black satin. The skirt is plain with three pleats over the hips, giving fullness at the side.



A BRAID TRIMMED COAT.

A wool and camel's hair plush, in a brown, grey and white mixture is made up in this garment and large buttons of brown wood, enamelled in black and white, harmonize well with it. The collar and cuffs are of black velvet, edged with white braid. Over the white braid are narrower fancy braids in brilliant colors.



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EAT LESS MEAT IF BACK HURTS

Take a glass of Salts to flush kidneys if bladder bothers you.

Eating meat regularly eventually produces kidney trouble in some form or other, says a well-known authority because the uric acid in meat excites the kidneys, they become overworked; get sluggish; clog up and cause all sorts of distress, particularly backache and misery in the kidney region; rheumatic twinges, severe headaches, acid stomach, constipation, torpid liver, sleeplessness, bladder and urinary irritation.

The moment your back hurts or kidneys aren't acting right, or if bladder bothers you, get about four ounces of Jad Salts from any good pharmacy; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast for a few days and your kidneys will then act fine. This famous salt is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to flush clogged kidneys and stimulate them to normal activity; also to neutralize the acids in the urine so it no longer irritates, thus ending bladder disorders.

Jad Salts cannot injure anyone; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which millions of men and women take now and then to keep the kidneys and urinary organs clean, thus avoiding serious kidney disease. (Advertisement.)

UNIFORM RULES INTEREST ENGLAND

London, Dec. 27.—In spite of the lack of interest in the Duke of Westminster's Olympic games fund, the liveliest interest is being shown here in the International Congress, which will be held in Paris next June to promulgate a code of uniform regulations for the games.

It is understood that the English delegation will make several important proposals to the congress, among the most radical being a suggestion that women be included among the competitors. Other matters to be brought before the congress will be the question of the restriction of entries; a minimum age for competitors; and whether a distinction should be made between sports, indispensable for the Olympiad and those which, though not indispensable, can be admitted.

It is believed that the delegates will be a unity in demanding that the nation where the games are being held shall not be given an unfair advantage by giving undue prominence to the games in which that country excels. The technical regulations and the duties of the jury in the games will be defined by the congress with more rigidity than under the present rules.

MINER FALLS DEAD.
Bingham, Utah, Dec. 26.—Like Cur non, about 55 years of age, an old

COTTON PROFITABLE AUSTRALIAN CROP

London, Dec. 27.—The Dominions Royal Commission, which has been visiting the various Dominions, and has held meetings in London with a view to improving the trade relations of the various parts of the Empire, has convinced both the Colonial Office and the British Cotton Growing association that there are prospects of cotton being grown in northern Australia at a profit.

The Commission made extensive enquiries with regard to the possibilities of Australia as a cotton producing country, and in its report says the members were much impressed with the natural advantages of the northern part of the continent. The Commission got a promise from the Commonwealth Government to assist in any attempt to develop the industry and now the Colonial Office and the Cotton Growing Association have promised financial assistance in order that skilled advice may be procured and practical experiments made with various types of seed.

A STICKLER FOR PROPRIETY.
"Walter, waiter, call the manager. Here is a fly blatter without a costume."—Punch.

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